



## WAUKESHA PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Bruce Gay, Director  
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December 4, 2018

To: Waukesha Public Library Board of Trustees  
From: Bruce Gay, Library Director  
Re: Library Accessibility scan

On November 28 I met with Bridges Library System consultant Angela Meyers to review the Accessibility scan for the Library, performed by Brian Peters, a Community Access and Policy Specialist from IndependenceFirst. The scan is meant to educate libraries on their level of compliance with ADA standards. The assessment identified 101 barriers at the Library.

Two examples of barriers are as follows:

“Barrier 4: Staff Parking Lot, accessible parking spaces. The spaces and aisle exceed the allowable cross slope of 1:48 (2.083%).

- Accessible Parking Space #5 has an average cross slope of 3.13%
- Access Aisle #6 has an average cross slope of 3.56%
- Accessible Parking Space #7 has an average cross slope of 3.4%”

“Barrier 31: Community Room door: The door closing speed is 2.60 seconds.”

Each identified barrier in the report is followed by the ADA code language and a recommendation for remediation.

I categorized the issues as follows:

- 12 bathroom issues—support bars in the wrong place, sinks too low or high, etc.
- 27 door issues—doors too hard to open and close too quickly.
- 9 exterior lot issues—slopes too high, or additional signs needed.
- 27 Furnishings too high/low—tables, shelves, etc, usually not high enough for access.
- 5 protrusion issues—drinking fountains or coat hooks protruding that could not be identified by someone with a cane.
- 9 “too tight” issues—too tight a space between shelves or walls.
- 8 sign issues—signs lacking braille, or too high or low.

I have shared the report with Jim Lapaz. Many—perhaps a majority—are fixable with a minimum expenditure of resources. Others will be part of capital improvement plans. Although 101 barriers sounds like a lot, Peters wrote that he was “very pleased to find that the library is quite accessible.” I am happy to share the full report if others would like to read it.

